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# THE AUK:

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### DESCRIPTIONS OF SIX SUPPOSED NEW SPECIES OF BIRDS FROM THE ISLANDS OF OLD PROVIDENCE AND ST. ANDREWS, CARIBBEAN SEA.\*

BY CHARLES B. CORY.

#### **Lampornis hendersoni**, sp. nov.

SP. CHAR.—Similar to *L. prevosti*; but bill much shorter and back green instead of bronzy; the bluish black patch on the throat longer and narrower, the top of the head shows a faint ash tinge.

*Adult* ♂ (Type, No. 10190, Coll. C. B. Cory):—Upper plumage bronzy green, a slight ash tinge on the top of the head; a stripe of bluish black down the centre of the throat, becoming blue on the breast, bordered on either side by grass green, showing bronzy green on the sides of the neck; a tuft of white on the thighs; upper surface of central tail-feathers dark bronze green, outer feathers brownish purple, showing rufous in some lights, edged with dark blue; most of under surface of tail-feathers purple when held in the light; quills dark brown; bill black, about two-thirds as long as that of *prevosti*.

Length, 4; wing, 2.65; tail, 1.50; bill, .78.

*Female* (No. 10196, Coll. C. B. Cory):—Upper parts similar to the male; throat white with a broad black stripe passing down the centre, becoming dark bluish green on the lower throat and upper breast; under surface of tail-feathers tipped with white and bordered sub-terminally with dark steel blue.

*Habitat.* Old Providence Island.

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[\*An author's edition of 250 copies of this paper was published May 28, 1887.—EDD.]

The immature bird has a patch of bright green on the centre of the throat separated by a narrow white stripe from the deep chestnut brown which borders the sides of the throat and breast; most of the tail-feathers are broadly tipped with white, showing a sub-terminal band of dark blue.

***Vireosylvia canescens*, sp. nov.**

SP. CHAR.—Resembles *Vireosylvia grandior*. Ridgw., but is ashy instead of greenish on the back, and lacks the olive on the flanks and the yellowish crissum; tail-feathers not green.

*Adult* ♂ (Type, No. 10195, Coll. C. B. Cory):—Head ash gray, becoming dull grayish olive on the back; a superciliary stripe of dull, buffy white, bordered by a narrow streak of brown on the sides of the crown; a malar stripe of dull brown. Underparts white, faintly tinged with olive; crissum dull white, showing a slight yellowish tinge at the vent; quills and tail brown, showing a tinge of olive on the outer webs of the inner feathers.

Length, 5.60; wing, 3.50; tail, 2.60; tarsus, .80; bill, .70.

*Habitat.* St. Andrews Island.

***Icterus lawrencii*, sp. nov.**

SP. CHAR. — Similar to *Icterus bairdi*; but having the upper plumage and especially the upper tail-coverts more olive. General plumage apparently darker.

*Adult* ♂ (Type, No. 10193, Coll. C. B. Cory):—Above yellowish olive, showing a faint brown tinge on the head and nape, nearly absent in some specimens; rump and upper tail-coverts yellowish olive, like the back; throat black, the black passing in front of the eye extending to the nostril; rest of underparts pale orange yellow; wings black, the coverts pure white, forming a broad white wing-patch; tertials and secondaries heavily edged with white, primaries showing a faint indication of white edging on the inner feathers. Tail black, narrowly tipped with dull white.

Length, 7.80; wing, 4.40; tail, .37; tarsus, 1; bill, .80.

*Habitat.* St. Andrews Island.

I take pleasure in dedicating this beautiful species to Mr. Geo. N. Lawrence, of New York.

***Mimus magnirostris*, sp. nov.**

SP. CHAR.—Bill very large; breast and throat showing a faint tinge of reddish brown, lacking in some specimens.

*Adult* ♂ (Type, No. 10192, Coll. C. B. Cory):—Upper plumage

slaty gray, showing a brownish tinge on top of the head; underparts white, tinged with orange brown on the throat and breast; tail brownish black, tipped with white, narrowly on the two central feathers but gradually becoming heavier, until the outer feathers have the terminal third and outer web white; quills brownish black, faintly edged with white; bill and feet black.

Length, 11.50; wing, 4.85; tail, 5.75; tarsus, 1.40; bill, 1.

*Habitat.* St. Andrews Island.

The orange brown coloration of the throat and breast is apparently not a constant character, as several specimens before me show it but slightly and two not at all.

### ***Engyptila neoxena*, sp. nov.**

SP. CHAR.—Resembles *Engyptila collaris*, but is more olive on the back, and lacks the violet metallic collar, which is apparently replaced by green; the general color of the upper parts more closely resembles that in *E. jamaicensis*, but the specimens of the latter bird now before me have the top of the head purplish, showing a greenish gloss on the occiput, while in *E. neoxena* the top of the head is white shading to ash gray.

*Adult* ♂ (Type, No 10194, Coll. C. B. Cory):—Top of head white, shading into gray on the occiput; chin and throat white, becoming pale purple or violet on the breast; sides of the neck and breast showing metallic purple mixed with metallic green when held in the light; feathers on the upper back showing metallic green, faintly tinged with purple; back dark olive; belly dull white; rest of plumage resembling that of *E. collaris*.

Length, 9; wing, 4.75; tail, 4; tarsus, 1.

*Habitat.* St. Andrews Island.

But two specimens of this interesting bird were taken and both were badly prepared. It is possible that a larger series would show it to be not specifically separable from *E. jamaicensis*.

### ***Dendroica flava*, sp. nov.**

SP. CHAR.—Resembles *Dendroica rufivertex*, but has the orange brown on the head more restricted and paler; throat unspotted, or very nearly so; underparts, including sides and flanks, heavily striped with rufous brown.

*Adult* ♂ (Type, No. 10191, Coll. C. B. Cory):—Top of the head orange brown showing yellow in front of the eye; nape, back and upper tail-coverts yellowish olive; throat bright pale yellow, touched with one or two indistinct pencilings of brown, rest of underparts

yellow, heavily streaked with rufous brown; wings dark brown edged with yellow; tail-feathers brown, heavily marked with yellow on the inner webs and faintly edged with it on the outer.

Length, 4.75; wing, 2.35; tail, 2; tarsus, .80; bill, .30.

*Habitat.* St. Andrews Island.



A LIST OF THE BIRDS TAKEN BY MR. ROBERT  
HENDERSON, IN THE ISLANDS OF OLD PROV-  
IDENCE AND ST ANDREWS, CARIBBEAN  
SEA, DURING THE WINTER OF 1886-87.\*

BY CHARLES B. CORY.

*Old Providence.*

- Dendroica palmarum* (Gmel.).  
*Dendroica coronata* (Linn.).  
*Compsothlypis americana* (Linn.).  
*Seiurus noveboracensis* (Gmel.).  
*Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis* (Grinn.).  
*Seiurus aurocapillus* (Linn.).  
*Seiurus motacilla* (Vieill.).  
*Certhiola tricolor* Ridgw.  
*Vireo approximans* Ridgw.  
*Vireosylvia grandior* Ridgw.  
*Spiza americana* (Gmel.).  
*Euethia bicolor* (Linn.).  
*Tyrannus tyrannus* (Linn.).  
*Elainea cinerescens* Ridgw.  
*Lampornis hendersoni nobis*.  
*Coccyzus minor* (Gmel.).  
*Melopelia leucoptera* (Linn.).  
*Columba leucocephala* Linn.  
*Actitis macularia* (Linn.).  
*Ardea virescens* (Linn.).  
*Ardea cærulea* (Linn.).  
*Ardea tricolor ruficollis* (Gosse).  
*Fregata aquila* (Linn.).

\* [An author's edition of 250 copies of this paper was published May 28, 1887.—EDD.]